

BALTIMORE ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
Moral and Educational Improvement of the Colored People,

ROOMS 3 and 4 BIBLE HOUSE.

Baltimore, Sept 14 1865

Dear Sir's

138-

Our association met on Monday evening last and deferred all action respecting the new Confederation until it heard from you and from the Penna Association.

It was thought that as you raised most of the money and devised means for that purpose in fields of which we knew nothing it was better let you say whether the new order of things was likely to assist you or not.

You will understand therefore that what I say is not the voice of the Society; for which I have no right to speak, but is simply an expression of my own views, in which however a majority at least of our Executive Committee concur.

We think the expense of the machinery now that Mr. Olmsted declines is out of all proportion to its usefulness. All that recommended our delegates to the Confederation was the assurance of Dr. Bellows and Mr.

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McKin that Mr Elmostad was so efficient -  
an agent - that expense was not to be con-  
sidered in his employment -

The Constitution which has been sent  
us has been materially altered in one  
respect. It was originally provided  
that the General Confederation should  
receive all European donations nor  
specifically sent to other Associations  
without this, which I did not like at  
the time, the Confederation is without  
support. It was provided that it should  
not invade the provinces of other Associations  
to beg, and I cannot tell whence it is to  
draw material aid, for there is no provision  
that the Freedmans Aid Union is to pay any  
thing. The fact that it is without means  
however so far as its labors are concerned  
makes little difference for it is provided that  
it shall have nothing to do -

It cannot interfere with the Associations  
in stationing teachers - recalling them or  
raising money for their support - All it  
appears to be required to do is to cooperate

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with the Freedmens Bureau and for that,  
little money is required, for we have co-  
operated with that Bureau quite as ef-  
ficiently as it will & it does cost us  
little.

A great deal is hidden under the  
word Co-operate. It may imply such  
close alliance with it, that the people of  
the South will hardly know which is Freed-  
mans Association & which is Government.

I look upon such an alliance as  
dangerous. I have no objection to furnish  
help to any extent to the Bureau but I do not  
wish to become part of it or responsible for  
its conduct.

I wish our movement to be strictly  
humanitarian, benevolent philanthropic -

I wish the Southern people so to understand  
it. I do not wish arrayed against us  
any of the passion, prejudice or hate which  
the Freedmans Bureau in confiscating land  
or by the use of arms may in the prosecution  
of its affairs, engender -

I want education to follow the word

but not to wield it. and while I wish  
the Freedmans Bureau every success  
I wish it to work out its salvation  
with fear and trembling with Andrews  
Johnsons present views as how it may  
inish the support of our cause to rest  
in the hearts of benevolent men North and  
South - and not on administration

To keep the confidence of the people  
at home our teachers and agents must  
be unconnected with any Bureau at  
Washington - People will think their  
reports are colored to suit the views of  
the administration upon which in some  
measure they are dependent if we be  
we make them so - All our agents and  
teachers now representous now a  
woful opposition to the education  
and elevation of the colored man exists  
at the South, They are but hold free

They cannot even in Maryland where voluntary Emancipation has taken place be heard to make complaint - in a Court how much worse is their case likely to be in Alabama & Georgia.

Children are here seized at the birth stone of their parents and bound to their former masters. In Worcester County in this State public notice is given by hand bill & poster that no negro school shall be established there; - the penalty - three hundred being exile to the vendor of the lot on which it is built and the trench for his houses & barns.

Mr Johnson says these representations "are pestilential and malignant utterances" in his speech to the Southern Delegation Sept 11.

Will the Freedmans Bureau say they are true? Will our agents be allowed so to say when "co-operating" with it?

If we maintain our independence the hearts and confidence of the people will be with us. We will organ-

ive & prosecute the grandest & most  
noble work of history - the education  
& elevation of a whole race - If we  
prefer the support of the sword or of a  
party - we must die with the party  
& perish by the sword.

We are entitled to no more protection  
than other citizens prosecuting lawful  
enterprise. Let the administration do  
"reconstruct" as that we may love it.  
We shall survive all parties if indepen-  
dent of them and be a rallying point  
in the North for all men who are  
determined, that nationally, through  
the government, the negro shall be  
declared and treated as a man

I will refer your letter to our Board  
& have a committee appointed to state  
its views.

Messrs Wm Lloyd Garrison -  
Chas. Howe  
Ed S. Philbrick

Yours truly

Hugh L. Bond.

P.S.

I hope if our present confed  
eration is not ratified that  
we will make Bishop Simpson  
President of our Union -

He can be of great service  
in stirring the Methodist people  
who are as numerous as Pharisees  
frogs in the Central States, up  
to some effort in our behalp -

W.H.B.

B. 19  
to us by and we did it  
the day before.  
and when we got up  
in the morning  
we made our way to  
the south part of the  
country.